

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An improved method of treating skin diseases comprises applying to the skin of a patient suffering such a skin disease an allantoin-containing composition in a therapeutically effective quantity. The allantoin-containing composition is a water-in-oil emulsion that includes allantoin and an emulsifier system that includes at least one emulsifier that is either an anionic emulsifier or a nonionic emulsifier. If the emulsifier is an anionic emulsifier, the emulsifier system can include beeswax. The nonionic emulsifiers used can include at least one nonionic emulsifier that is an ethoxylated ether or an ethoxylated ester whose carbon chain length ranges from 8 to 22 carbon atoms. Alternatively, the emulsifier system can include an acidic anionic polymer such as carboxypolymethylene and an anionic emulsifier. In another alternative, the emulsifier system can include the acidic anionic polymer and a nonionic emulsifier, or the acidic anionic polymer alone. In still another alternative, the emulsifier system can include cetyl alcohol and stearic acid. In yet another alternative, the emulsifier system can include sodium stearoyl lactylate and sodium isostearoyl lactylate. In another alternative, the emulsifier system can include at least one polyethyleneglycol ether of cetearyl alcohol. In still another alternative, the emulsifier system can include a polyethylene glycol ester of stearic acid and glyceryl stearate. The composition can include other ingredients. The pH of the composition used in a method according to the present invention is from about 3.0 to about 6.0; preferably, a narrower pH range is used, varying with each embodiment of the composition. Among the diseases that can be treated is epidermolysis bullosa.